

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-8 are allowed and that claims 10, 11, 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For reasons discussed hereinafter, it is believed that amendments to claims 10, 11, 15 and 16 are unnecessary to place them in condition for allowance.

The drawings stand objected to for being difficult to read. In response to this objection, a copy of the formal drawings submitted under cover dated August 6, 2001, which were published in the U.S. Patent Publication of the subject application, namely U.S. 2002/0032770, on March 14, 2002, are submitted herewith. The Examiner's approval of the attached drawings is requested.

Paragraphs [0026] and [0033] of the specification have been amended to correct editorial errors therein. Support for the amendments to paragraphs [0026] and [0033] can be found in the specification as originally filed.

Claims 9, 12-14 and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 6,606,644 to Ford et al. In response to this rejection, independent claims 9 and 17 have been amended. New claims 21 and 22 have been added to further claim Applicants' invention. Claims 1-22 are pending in the application.

As amended herein, claim 9 recites a method of remotely monitoring an Internet session that includes the steps of: (a) participating in a first Internet session at a first Internet protocol (IP) address; (b) concurrent with the first Internet session, initiating another Internet session at another IP address; and (c) transferring data associated with the first Internet session to the other IP address via the other Internet session, wherein steps (a), (b) and (c) are performed at the same user computer.

The Ford et al. patent discloses a method of forming an Internet chat session between a client operating under the control of a user interface 10 and a server 22. User interface 10 includes a Connection and Collection Manager 12 which, when successfully connected with server 22, will appear to be an ordinary client and will be able to listen to all messages being broadcast by other clients of an Internet chat session as part of their real-time communication (see Ford et al. patent, column 9, lines 19-23). The Ford et al. patent, however, does not disclose, teach or suggest a computer participating in a first Internet session at a first IP address and, concurrent with the first Internet session, the computer initiates another Internet session and another IP address for purpose of transferring data associated with the first Internet session to the other IP address via the other Internet session. Absent such disclosure, teaching or suggestion, the Ford et al. patent cannot anticipate or render obvious claim 9 of the present application, or claims 10-16 dependent therefrom.

For the reasons discussed above in connection with claim 9, the Ford et al. patent cannot anticipate or render obvious amended claim 17, claims 18-21 dependent from claim 17 or new claim 22.

The present invention enables a user participating in an Internet chat session to respond to threats and/or to assist investigators in the apprehension of online predators by opening up a second Internet session with a monitor computer and transferring data associated with the chat session to the monitor computer for display and/or storage. The Ford et al. patent simply does not disclose, teach or suggest a system having all the features of the present invention.

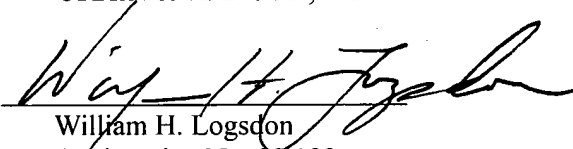
CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, and the accompanying formal drawings, reconsideration of the objection and rejection, allowance of claims 9-22, and ongoing allowance of claims 1-8 are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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